



FIRST NATIONS SUMMIT

First Nations Summit Elects Wilf Adam and Jody Wilson Commissioners of the British Columbia Treaty Commission

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VANCOUVER -- First Nations leaders who were gathered in North Vancouver this week for a regular meeting of the First Nations Summit, elected Wilf Adam and Jody Wilson as Commissioners of the British Columbia Treaty Commission. Following the election, the First Nations Summit appointed Mr. Adam and Ms. Wilson to their positions as Commissioners by resolution.

"First Nations engaged in the BC Treaty Process look forward to a positive working relationship with both Mr. Adam and Ms. Wilson in their roles as Commissioners of the BCTC", said Lydia Hwitsum, a member of the Summit's political executive. "The role of these two individuals is extremely important to all First Nations who are striving to negotiate fair, equitable and timely treaties under the British Columbia treaty negotiation process. During this critical point in the treaty negotiation process it is imperative that strong individuals be charged with the responsibility of upholding the mandate of the BCTC as *keepers of the process.*"

The re-appointment of Mr. Adam and the appointment of Ms. Wilson came following a 3 ballot election for the Summit's two positions to the BC Treaty Commission. Ms. Wilson was elected on the first ballot and Mr. Adam on the third ballot as five candidates vied for the commissioner positions. Both appointments are for two year terms and will expire in March 2005.

Bio of Wilf Adam

Wilf Adam was first appointed Commissioner in 1995. He has subsequently been re-elected to further two years terms in 1997, 1999 and 2001. He is a former Chief Councilor of the Lake Babine Band and former chair of the Burns Lake Native Development Corporation. Mr. Adam is a co-founder of the Burns Lake Law Centre. He was born in Burns Lake and raised at Pendleton Bay. In 1985, he completed a course in Business Management at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George.

Bio of Jody Wilson

This will be Jody Wilson's first term as a commissioner. She is a member of the We Wai Kai First Nation on Vancouver Island. She has a Law degree as well as a B.A. in Political Science and History from the University of British Columbia. She has been a practicing member of the BC Bar since 2000. Ms. Wilson has worked for the past nine months as an advisor with the BC Treaty Commission. Previous to that she worked for two years as a Provincial Crown Prosecutor.

- 30 -

For more information:
Colin Braker, First Nations Summit:
Office: (604) 990-9939 or Cell: (604) 328-4094